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SUPPORT BY THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM OF THE EFFORTS OF GOVERNMENTS TO PROMOTE AND CONSOLIDATE NEW OR RESTORED DEMOCRACIES

MAINTENANCE OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Letter dated 18 December 1997 from the Permanent Representatives of Georgia and Romania to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

We have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the Declaration of the Development of Cooperation between Romania and Georgia, signed by the President of Georgia, Mr. Eduard Shevardnadze and the President of Romania, Mr. Emil Constantinescu, on 11 December 1997, during President Shevardnadze's official visit to Bucharest.

May we ask your kind assistance in circulating the text of the present letter and its annex as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 38, 81 and 97.

(Signed) Ion GORITA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Romania
to the United Nations

(Signed) Peter CHKHEIDZE
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Georgia
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Declaration on the Development of Cooperation between Georgia and Romania, signed on 11 December 1997

Georgia and Romania, hereinafter referred to as the "Parties",

Striving to extend all-round partnership between the two States, proceeding from the fundamental principles of the Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation signed on 26 March 1996,

Expressing their readiness to ensure the historical affinity and traditional friendly relations between the two nations,

Realizing the great importance of mutual support and cooperation in strengthening the State independence and sovereignty of Georgia and Romania,

Recognizing the significance of cooperation between Georgia and Romania in providing for a new system of security and stability in Europe,

Declare the following:

1. The Parties are convinced that cooperation, based on the principles of equality, independence, mutual assistance, mutually beneficial cooperation and respect for each other's sovereignty, affords the States ample opportunities to perform the tasks for attaining a qualitatively new level of cooperation in partnership.

2. The Parties consider that joint coordinated efforts should be exerted with a view to establishing bilateral and multilateral relations, based on internationally recognized principles and standards of international law in the zone of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE).

3. The Parties consider the restoration and protection of the territorial integrity of the States to be the imperative of strengthening peace, stability and security at the subregional and regional levels.

4. The Parties shall further support each other in the implementation of their basic foreign policy priorities to ensure their integration into political and economic structures in Europe.

5. The Parties attach great importance to the necessity of creating an atmosphere of trust and security, and of avoiding new lines of demarcation on the continent; the Parties consider it imperative to extend the cooperation within the programme of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), which Partnership For Peace has already made a significant contribution to the consolidation of regional security and stability.

6. The Parties shall support the conclusion of an agreement on cooperation in different spheres, including the military and military-technical spheres.

Georgia requests Romania to render assistance in the creation, development and training of specialized units for border protection.

7. In support of the transition process of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation alliance into a regional economic organization, the Parties intend to exert every effort with a view to deepening and expanding trade and economic cooperation within the framework of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis.

8. The Parties fully support the idea of cooperation between the countries of the Baltic and the Black Seas and express their readiness to facilitate the implementation thereof in every possible way, with the purpose of establishing stronger political and economic ties.

9. Expressing their satisfaction with the development of bilateral trade and economic cooperation, the Parties consider it necessary to carry out measures to ensure the intensification of these processes.

10. The parties place special emphasis upon the stimulation of efforts to achieve the full-scale operation of the Euro-Asian transportation corridor, and regard this global-scale project as an imperative in the promotion of the overall development of the two States.

The implementation of the Euro-Asian corridor idea by means of the European transport systems as well as the TRASECA project will contribute to full-scale economic integration with the Euro-Asian land area.

The Parties attach the greatest importance to the development of the Euro-Asian transportation corridor and the Pan-European transportation area, and consider it expedient to take part in the activities of existing economic and transport structures in the Denube region.

The Parties recognize the necessity of the optimal utilization of the favourable transit opportunities of both States in terms of the transport of energy resources.

The Parties undertake to hold the regular bilateral and multilateral consultations on diverse issues with a view towards the activation of this overwhelming project.

11. The Parties place special emphasis upon the implementation of the Constanza-Poti and Constanza-Batumi train/ferry project, which will be an important part of the long-term programme of the Euro-Asian transportation corridor.

12. The Parties attach great importance to the prevention of terrorism and organized crime, which jeopardize their national interests.

13. The Parties shall promote interparliamentary links and experience-sharing in the spheres of legislative activities and operations and the formation of democratic institutions.

14. The Parties shall ensure regular experience- and information-sharing on the reforms carried out by the two countries in various spheres of activity.

DONE at Bucharest on 11 December 1997 in the Romanian and Georgian languages, both texts being equally authentic.

The President of Georgia:

(Signed) Eduard SHEVARDNADZE

The President of Romania:

(Signed) Emil CONSTANTINESCU